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A Wiki For Ideas

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A WIKI FOR IDEAS

ABSTRACT

A system and method of creating a web portal ideas can be recorded is presented. Each idea page is collaboratively edited, evaluated and managed using a system similar to Wikipedia. Each idea will have a list of applications to go with it. The system could also be provided with tools to track if the idea is known anywhere, either on demand or as a configurable notification. The website would not guarantee originality of entries, but will have mechanisms to check for prior art. If the creator of an idea wants to implement that idea they would be responsible for ensuring that it is not patented before and to cover risks of infringing any existing claims. If the creator finds no prior art for his idea, he could publish it on the website, thereby making it available to others and use it. The system and method disclosed will prevent trolling.

BACKGROUND

Trolling presents problems for companies and individuals in creating new products. For instance, a lot of entities are engaged in filing a lot of patents without the intention of implementing these in products. Often these patents are based on obvious ideas. There is a need to restrict trolling, as otherwise companies that manufacture or provide a service have to pay trolling companies a lot of money for licensing the patents to avoid prolonged lawsuits.

DESCRIPTION

A system and method are disclosed that involves creating a web portal where people can record their ideas. Each idea page is collaboratively edited, evaluated and managed using a system similar to Wikipedia. Each idea will have a list of applications to go with it. The system could also be provided with tools to track if the idea is known anywhere, either on demand or as a configurable notification to the creator. Tracking can either be done by people or automatically. The website would not guarantee that there are no prior art references or

patents for a submitted idea, but will have mechanisms to check for prior art, which could be the same or similar to the tracking mechanism. If the creator of an idea wants to implement that idea, they would be responsible for ensuring that it is not already patented and for covering risks of infringing any existing claims. If the creator finds no prior art for his idea, he could publish it on the website, thereby making it available to others and use it. Publishing the idea for the first time (no prior art), will prevent trolling.

The system and method may be implemented to incentivize disclosures by providing rewards for the most impactful ideas. Additionally or alternatively, there may be a rating system from viewers for the best ideas. As an additional or value-added feature, the website may provide an analytical tool that reformulates an idea in a generalized or abstract way to prevent others from exploiting obvious variations of the idea. The system and method disclosed would allow generation of a lot of ideas from the public which are then made publicly available at minimal cost that may be required to operate such a system.